"LO A VOICE FROM HEAVEN"

The Church of God Evangel

ALL NATIONS — MATT. 28:19. EVERY CREATURE — MARK. 16:15

CLEVELAND, TENN.

GOD IS LOVE

THE PILLAR — THE TRUTH

DOESN'T SOMEONE CARE?

Rev. Bill Brown

Sometimes I'm sad and lonely,
  And it seems I'm in despair,
It's then my very soul cries out,
  Doesn't someone care?

The way about me grows dreary,
  To turn, I know not where,
The burden is now so heavy,
  Oh God! I'm sinking, I fear!

And then just a moment of searching
  For a basis for all my fears;
Foolish Self, I then exclaim,
  You know that Jesus cares!

Down on my knees before Him,
  And humble petition bring,
Now the burden has rolled away!
  And joybells begin to ring!

And now in the golden sunlight,
  The toils, the strife, the snares
Become stepping stones to Glory,
  Because my Savior cares!

THE GROUND OF

EPH. 2:20 — 1 TIM. 3:15

"And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations." Luke 22:46; 2 Pet. 2:9a.

Vol. 36, No. 1

March 3, 1945

NOTICES

Schedule of dates for state camp meetings and conventions for the North Central District:

Ontario, Canada—March 29-April 1.

Wisconsin—May 11-14.

Ohio—May 29-June 3. (Prayer conference and convention.)

Tennessee—June 10-20. (Camp meeting and convention.)

Illinois—June 21-July 1. (Camp meeting and convention.)

Kentucky—July 5-15. (Camp meeting and convention.)

Michigan—July 17-25. (Camp meeting and convention.)

Indiana—July 26-29.

We are looking forward to these conventions being the greatest in the history of the Church. There seems to be a great spiritual awakening throughout the North Central District.

May we join together in earnest and sincere prayers that God will undertake, and that He will not permit anything to happen that would hinder our coming together in these holy convocations.—E. W. Williams, Assistant General Overseer, North Central District.

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An Apology

To my many friends and brothers of the ministry: I want to say I am more than glad to be back in fellowship with the Church of God. I have been away a year almost. I was preaching for and licensed in another Pentecostal movement, but one day the Lord seemed to say to me, "You go back to the church where you left and apologize and rejoin." I said, "Lord, I will go and offer myself for membership anew and if they reject me that is all I can do," so I went back where I had been a member and former pastor, and my brethren were happy to receive me back into fellowship, for which I surely thank the good Lord.

Now to my brethren of the whole ministry, I humbly apologize to any to whom I owe an apology individually, and to the ministry at large I apologize for my conduct. I am happy to be back and solicit an interest in your every prayer.—Your brother in Christ, Thos. G. Evans, Opelika, Ala.

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District Conventions

Austin, Tex., district, at San Antonio, Tex. R. O. Woodruff, district pastor.

Mexico Convention

The general convention for the Republic of Mexico will convene in the Federal District of Mexico City on May 10-13. Church of God ministers, members, and friends living near enough to the border to go down for this convention should take advantage of this opportunity to see some of our work in Mexico.

The temple where the convention is to be held will hold four or five thousand people and there will be people there from all parts of Mexico, both Spanish and Indian. It will be a real opportunity to get a view of some of our mission work.

Those planning to go should obtain a birth certificate or an affidavit of birth or something to prove your American citizenship. They should apply a few days beforehand or stop at a Mexican Consulate to get a tourist permit. It will be advisable for men who are going to get a release from their draft boards. For further information write Rev. V. D. Hargrave, Cruz Azul No. 147, Col. Industrial, Mexico D. F., Mexico.

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For Sale

Pre-war tent of heavy ducking, 30x60 feet. House type (square). Used lightly. Price $300.00.—Jody L. Goodwin, Rt. 6, Cleveland, Tenn., phone 1177-W-4.

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Special Notice

Seven hours of continuous broadcasting from Greenville, S. C., Church of God, beginning Saturday night, March 3, at 12:00 o'clock midnight until 7:00 a. m. Sunday, over station WMRC, 1490 Kc. on previous frequency test. Broadcast early in the morning after the other stations are off the air. This station has received mail from all parts of the nation, even from California, Canada, etc. We realize we cannot go far while other stations are on but try while other stations are off and get our broadcast and please, please drop us a card so we can know how far we are reaching. If we go out well we will continue. Please help us to find out by listening. — Earl P. Paulk, pastor, 107 Elm St., Greenville, S. C.

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Our radio program has been changed to 7:30-8:00 a. m. each Sunday over station WMFD, Wilmington, N. C., 1400 Kc.—V. D. Combs, pastor.

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If Brother and Sister David Ingram, Church of God minister, see this, please get in touch with us.—Brother and Sister Bill Phillips, Box 176, Perdido, Ala.

"Jesus Saves" Pin

Yesterday we received 1,000 "Jesus Saves" pins. These do not have the chain and cross. The pin is straight, but larger and of good quality. Price, 80c each in quantities of less than twelve; 12 or more pins in one order, 65c each; retail price, $1.00 each.

CHURCH OF GOD PUB. HOUSE
Cleveland, Tennessee

Velskin

Velskin Deep Cleanser is doing a fine job keeping war hands fit for the difficult task of daily toil in war factories, mills, garages, printing plants, etc. Not only is Velskin doing a great job as a cleanser, but it is doing an extraordinary job in helping churches to raise money to lift mortgages, erect new buildings, pay for parsonages, raise mission money, aged ministers' support, etc. Velskin is sold to our churches through the Publishing House, at 50c per 12 oz. bottle, F.O.B. St. Louis, or Charlotte, N. C. We ship from 24-bottle cartons to 2400 bottles. No order accepted for less than 24 bottles. Velskin accounts are due and payable at the end of each thirty days for whatever amount of Velskin has been sold. Order from—

CHURCH OF GOD PUBLISHING HOUSE

Montgomery Avenue **Cleveland, Tennessee**

DELKSAID

—By—

D. H. DELK

The Absent-mindedness of a Mote-hunter

Lesson: Luke 7:36-46

A mote-hunter is a very busy person, therefore don't blame him too much if he forgets a few little things that are important.

The Pharisee thought he could see far, far into the depths of great things, and discern that Christ was no prophet, simply because He never shrank from the touch of such a woman. The truth is the Pharisee was a grumbler, a faultfinder, a mote-hunter, and this kind of folk usually feels very important. This Pharisee probably thought it was condescension enough on his part to invite a Nazarite to his home, therefore it was easy to forget his duty, his obligation, his responsibility. 2 Peter 3:5, Syriac, "This they willingly forget."

It was a custom to have water ready for an invited guest to wash his feet, but the Mr. Big Mote-hunter forgot, omitted, or for some reason failed to have it ready. A sinner from off the street brought up the old grumbler's part. She washed the Lord's feet with tears. (I'm afraid even we preachers are too far away from the spirit of Jeremiah; namely, weeping.)

A fellow in a restaurant, waiting to be served, ran out of patience. He went to the cashier and said, "I want to see the manager, I've got a complaint." "Complaint," said the girl, "then go to a hospital, this is a restaurant." Well, I certainly believe God has an operating place, and an operating power to heal grumbling and take the joy out of mote-hunting.

The great mighty mote-hunter also failed to kiss the Master's hand, but the disdained woman humiliated herself to kiss His feet (which was a great honor).

Another thing about this noted grumbler, he was stingy and selfish. (HAVE YOU EVER SEEN MANY THAT WEREN'T?) He never even supplied common oil for the Master's head, but the woman anointed His feet with precious ointment (worth probably fifty dollars a pound). I've often wondered how the preacher was going to put the program of God over, build, improve church property, add to and such like, when several of the members rather grumble than bring up their part, but God usually lays it on the heart of an outside person (very often an old sinner) to bring up their part. It was so with the Pharisee, this grumbler, this mote-hunter. The sinner woman came in and made up for his failures, and she went away justified, while he remained under condemnation.

Constant complaints don't usually win pity, but rather become disgusting. I think we please God highly when we "do all things without murmuring."

SOLDIER'S WEEKLY LETTER

Pray for Those Facing the HorribleTask

Dear Hilbert and Faye:

I have come back for just a day or two of rest. I feel almost as if I were in Heaven—no rumble of big guns, no bursting shells. I wish, so deeply within my heart, that I should not ever have to go back to what most of us have seen. But, if many a prayer is answered, I'm sure things will turn out all right. There are prayers, I'm sure, all over the world that this curtain of darkness will rise—and how dark it is to us—and there will be light again.

I have just finished supper. We had meat with noodles, creamed peas, pickled beets, cake, ice cream, and coffee with all the cream I wanted—an unusual thing, I must say.

I haven't received your package of presents yet, but I thank you anyway. I'm hoping tonight that you are getting along all right.

If there is anyone there who believes in a Supreme Being, I ask that they beg for mercy and blessings of safeLeing for all the boys who are facing a horrible task. Sometimes I can hardly see why it goes on but my hopes cause me to believe that this curse will be lifted soon and this yoke of torment will be lifted from our necks. But to show the folly of men, I want to tell you what I observe among them—they seek cover, when big shells are falling around them, in a fox hole, behind a rock, or if it's nothing more than a pebble they try to get small enough to get behind it and pray to God for mercy, and when they can no longer hear those whistling, horrible things coming toward them, they are up cursing and swearing. I'm very glad to say that I cannot do that. If respect did not refrain me, I have a paper in my pocket that what is written on the first page would greatly influence me. It reads:

"The General is sorry to be informed that the foolish and wicked practice of profane cursing and swearing, a vice HERETOFORE LITTLE KNOWN IN AN AMERICAN ARMY, is growing into fashion. He hopes the officers will, by example as well as influence, endeavor to check it, and that both they and the men will reflect that we can have little hope of the blessing of Heaven on our arms if we insult it by our impiety and folly.—From a general order issued by General George Washington in New York, July, 1776."

There was a show tonight but it seems I have more important things to do just now. I'll close.—Your brother, Vernon.

OBITUARIES

NEWBERRY

Brother I. B. Newberry passed this life to be with Jesus January 21, 1945. He was a real Christian and a member of the Winter Haven, Fla., Church of God.—J. B. Ellis.

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SURFACE

Charles Otis Surface, of Newtown, W. Va., went to be with Jesus January 8, 1945; age sixty-six years. He was a member of the Church of God at Akron, Ohio.—His daughter-in-law, Etta M. Surface, Rt. 9, Box 510, Akron 1, Ohio.

— — —

FISCHER

Mrs. Caroline Nusz Fischer, mother of Mrs. Dave Keller, went home to be with Jesus October 29, 1944; age eighty years. Although a church member for many years, she was saved on her deathbed.—Mrs. E. E. Coleman, Beulah, N. Dak.

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HILL

On December 14, 1944, Mrs. Edna Hill departed this life to be with Jesus; age seventy-seven years. She was blind but was a true member of the Church of God at Aaron, Ga. She was a loving grandmother and a faithful mother.—Her grandson's wife, Mrs. Waymon Thompson, Summit, Ga.

(Continued on page 11)

RELIGION AND THE WORLD

BY THE EDITOR

China

is looked upon as one of the most prospective mission fields after the war, due to close relation with the United States and in view of the fact that the Chiang Kai-sheks have led devout Christian lives before their people and have thereby wielded great influence.

—O—

Divorce Laws

From New York, through RNS, comes word that "a number of state legislatures throughout the country" have strengthened the marriage contract through a number of bills and have made it more difficult to secure a divorce. Some bills have in view to outlaw common-law marriages. In Iowa last year there were 6,247 divorces granted, which was an increase of 893 over the previous year.

—O—

A Real Bible Cake

Ingredients and references: 1 cup of butter, Judges 5:25; 3½ cups of flour, 1 Kings 4:22; 3 cups of sugar, Jer. 6:20; 2 cups of raisins, 1 Sam. 30:12; 2 cups of figs, 1 Sam. 30: 12; 1 cup of water, Gen. 24:17; 1 cup of almonds, Gen. 43:11; 6 eggs, Isa. 10:14; 1 teaspoon of honey, Ex. 16:31; pinch of salt, Lev. 2: 13; spice to taste, 1 Kings 10:10; 2 teaspoonfuls of baking power, 1 Cor. 5:6. Follow Solomon's advice for making good boys and girls and you will have a good cake (Prov. 23: 14).

—O—

Grecian Jews Destroyed

According to the chief rabbi and president of the Jewish community in Greece, of the 90,000 Jews in Greece before the war only 8,000 remain. All the rest have been sent to Poland for forced labor, died through persecution, or were shot. Athens has lost only 12 per cent of its Jewish population, but other towns have lost as much as 80 per cent. In Crete and Rhodes not a single Jew is left. The Central Jewish Air Committee lacked the resources to cope with the distressed survivors, among whom were many orphans and old men.

—O—

Peter Not Infallible

In the light of Acts 11:2, it is clear that the early Christian did not regard Peter as infallible, nor did they regard him as having any particular priority or supremacy over the Church. The title "Pope" was assumed by Hyginus in A. D. 139; at times there were two or three popes. Infallibility was only claimed in 1870 and led to the formation of the "Old Catholics," who rightly rejected the dogma. Not only this, but if it be argued that Peter was the first pope, it remains, according to Matt. 8:14, that Peter had a wife.

—O—

The Emperor of Japan

is looked upon by his subjects as being a god. It is quite likely that the Japs will have occasion to lose faith in him as a god when he is fully and finally defeated. His fall may open the eyes of the Japanese people and throw a new door open for the gospel, with increased emphasis.

—O—

Marriage

It is safe to say that marriages should have two distinct ties. 1. Parties united in wedlock should be Christians; they, to make marriage what it should be, ought to be divinely united; this insures that marriage administered in divine love will be a success. 2. They who are divinely united in marriage should, of course, be legally bound together by the laws of the land. All too often it is that parties united in matrimony are married only in the eyes of the law. They lack divine love for each other, and though held accountable by God for their marriage in that all divine offices are involved in marriage by the laws of the land, they nevertheless lack the essentials of divine love in their hearts to enrich each other's companionship, absorb irregularities and sometimes shock, to thereby make the married life a happier and easier one for the other. No man, who is not a Christian, can offer his wife the best of companionship; this is equally true of a woman. Marriage was a divine institution, and it should still be divinely guided and guarded. If this was generally true today, we would have less "child delinquency." The failures of children exist first in their parents.

Days of Conquest

These are days when both Protestant and Catholic churches are rallying for positions throughout the world. This is equally true of political groups and ideological thinkers. Jockeying for favored opportunities abounds everywhere. These are days of strong forebodings; they are shaping everything up for the final stage of the last days of conflict upon earth; when the final drama of antichrist will end the whole Gentile overlordship as his reign bows out before the coming King of Glory to set up His glorious kingdom on earth.

—O—

Jewish Persecution

Jewish Missionary Magazine reports that, "Only twelve Jews remain alive in Minsk of the 80,000 Jews who lived in the city, and of the 39,000 who were brought there from Berlin. Ignatz Burstein, one of the twelve who miraculously escaped Nazi extermination, told how the Germans annihilated the 119,000 Jews in Minsk during the three years they held the city. He related his gruesome tale in front of a charred building, where the twelve Jews, all of them highly-skilled technicians, were forcibly employed repairing German military vehicles."

—O—

Baptists Ask Vatican Probe

From Atlanta, Ga., comes word through RNS that the Senate has been asked by Dr. Louis D. Newton, Baptist pastor of Atlanta, to investigate the "status of our government and the Vatican."

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

Official Organ of the Church of God

Published weekly by
The Church of God Publishing House
Cleveland, Tennessee

E. C. CLARK, Editor and Publisher
Phone 21

EDITORIAL STAFF

E. L. Simmons, Paul H. Walker, J. D. Bright, R. P. Johnson, C. C. McAfee, J. A. Cross, E. W. Williams.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE
One year, $1.00; single copy, 5c.

Entered as second-class matter March 1, 1910, Cleveland, Tenn., under act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917. Authorized August 23, 1918.

Maintaining Apostolic Standards

E. C. CLARK
Managing Editor

INTRODUCTION

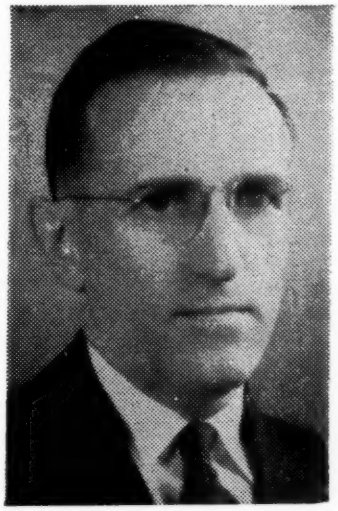
"Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now," John 2:10. This action was based then as it is now, on man's own lack of comprehension and willingness to accept a substitute of lower quality without protest.

HISTORY

indicates that not only did the Church of the early age retrograde from the truth of the gospel, but an examination of the history, doctrines, sacrifices, efforts and attainment of all Church movements of today will reveal that they have likewise fallen from the higher plane of spirituality and usefulness to a lower and less useful place in society. The revivals of the Quakers, the Lutherans, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and other of the major church movements were in their early history of such violent and tremendous spiirtual activities until not only weer they for the most part actually Pentecostal in experience, but most of them would make us who are of Pentecostal faith and experience ashamed of ourselves today.

WHAT

were the apostolic standards? is a natural question. Where are they found, and by whom were they set? We answer, they were set by the Lord of the harvest. They are found in each recorded instance of the ministry of our Lord and the Acts of the Apostles and other New Testament writings throughout. The people of Jesus' day could not have taken His claims seriously unless His ministry had been as it was, one of deeds rather than one of words only; therefore, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him," Acts 10:38. Here is the secret, "for God was with him." Jesus had no little trouble with the religious leaders of His day when He began to make His ministry one of "signs following" rather than a mere ritualism. Unless He had healed the people of His day He could have offered no proof that He was able to maintain the physical body against age and decay. It is equally true that unless Jesus had raised the dead, He could not have established the fact that He was "the resurrection and the life." The incarnation necessitated an outflowing of divine life that men might see and believe. God was able to pay cash on the "barrel head." His was not a mere promise with nothing in the tills to back it up.



ORIGINAL STANDARDS

The original standards were set and maintained by our Lord in His miraculous ministry from the very beginning until the ending of it on earth. He began by turning the water into wine, and ended by replacing "an ear" on the head of the high priest's servant that had been cut off by one of Jesus' friends in the stampede at the time of the arrest of Jesus. Matt. 26:51. His miracle of grace was the reconciling of Pilate and Herod who had long been enemies; and lastly, the pardoning of the thief while on the cross. Luke 23:12-43. His miracle of self-control was that of His behavior before His enemies while under arrest and during His crucifixion. After His forty-days fast in the wilderness, mentioned in the fourth chapter of Matthew, Jesus called His twelve apostles, and preached the sermon on the mount, followed by a variety of sayings and parables. "And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes," Matt. 7:28, 29. "And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth his hand and touched him, saying, I will, be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed," Matt. 8:2, 3. Next, at Capernaum He was invited by the centurion to heal his servant to which Jesus answered, "I will come and heal him." Notice the "I will; be thou clean" and "I will come and heal him," particularly the *"I will"* in each instance of man's appeal and time of need. This "I will" ever reflects the divine mind concerning His covenanted and believing children.

MULTITUDINOUS HEALINGS

Next mentioned in the line of healing miracles was the healing of Peter's mother-in-law, verses 14, 15. "When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick." Notice, "healed all that were sick." Next, He cast out a legion of devils and healed the Gadarian maniac mentioned in the close of Matt. 8. In the ninth chapter of Matthew He healed the man sick of the palsy, and exclaimed, "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." Here our Lord hints that all sickness originally sprang from the root of sin. Then followed the marvelous healing of the woman having an issue of blood, mentioned in verses 18-22. Next came the raising to life of Jairus' daughter who had been dead. After these healings and miracles our Lord healed the two blind men and cast out a devil that was dumb "and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel." "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people," verse 35. Marvelous Lord, He preached in all "cities and villages" and healed "every sickness and every disease." Here is the divine impulse toward the human race. It cannot now be less than it was in those times, unless men dare to say that Christ hath an unchangeable priesthood and God is a changeable God.

THE TWELVE SENT FORTH

"And when he had called unto him

(Continued on page 14)

The Common Salvation

By JOHN C. JERNIGAN, General Overseer

"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation," Jude 3.

In Jude's day salvation through the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was common among men. Jude called it "The common salvation."

There is a difference in salvation and religion. Religion is a form of worship. Salvation means deliverance, and in Bible terms it means deliverance from sin.

Information and instructions about this common salvation and how to receive it are found in the Bible. Other books have been written about it, but the authors' original information was obtained from the Scriptures.

There are some prophetic statements in the scriptures hard to understand, but the story of this common salvation is made so plain that even the most simple-minded understand it.

We live in a time when some would like to modernize this common salvation. Some of the modernists would ignore the blood of Christ and streamline religion until it would look good to a modern and proud world, but when this salvation is streamlined and modernized its effects and benefits are neutralized.

Men continue to improve on modern inventions, but this redemption plan is divine; man had nothing to do with its creation. Christ is the Author and Finisher and Preserver and He did such thorough work that there is nothing unfinished for man to fix.

Christ taught and fully instructed His disciples, who launched the first evangelistic campaign after He was gone. He set examples by preaching the gospel to the poor, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and doing all manner of good for the oppressed and needy, then went to the cross and gave His life for the completion of a common salvation that all men could enjoy.

Men may recommend changes, repeals and amendments, but the plan of salvation was so perfected that there will never be a necessity for any change or improvements. Salvation today is the same as it was on the day of Pentecost and demonstrates the same effects in men's lives. The kind of salvation received and practiced in the early church is the only salvation there is. Men in their efforts to modernize, popularize, and streamline the plan of this common salvation, may declare certain beliefs and practices of the early church non-essential in these modern times of much learning, but none of their declarations make any changes in the original plan of salvation.

The modernists may have some way of telling you that the blessings, faith, power, and experiences as received in the early church are not obtainable today, but the questions I would like to have them answer are: What is the evidence of any change? Has there been another Savior other than Christ crucified? Has there been a new Bible written? What new discovery have they made that the apostles and writers of the New Testament did not know about? We are sure that all research and accumulation of knowledge of generations of modernists will never reveal any other salvation nor add to or take away from the original plan. Men may ignore, deny, and refuse to accept this common salvation, but to those who do accept it, it is to them the same good old-time religion.

Education and culture is not salvation. There is nothing new for modern science to discover in common salvation. Salvation is not something that you grow into. It is not something that you learn in school. It is not something handed down to you from your parents. You get it from God through confession of sins, repentance in the bitter way, and faith in Jesus Christ.

I believe in the old-time religion, in the old-fashioned altar, and going after it in the old-fashioned way like people who met and prayed, and sang the praises of God, and the preacher preached until sinners fell from their seats trembling and calling on God for mercy. This is the kind of salvation taught in the Bible. When people got it they felt it; they knew about it; they were made happy.

Philip's revival in Samaria was not a handshaking campaign. The sick were healed, devils were cast out and the people gave their hearts to God and were baptized. It was said, "There was great joy in that city."

The lame man sitting at the Beautiful gate, who was healed and forgiven of his sins, (yes, I say forgiven of his sins, because the Bible said in James 5:15, "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him") this man was healed and, we believe, saved. Quoting Acts 3:8, "And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God." Yes, leaping and praising God. Do you think he felt it? He had received this old-time religion.

On the day of Pentecost the people waxed so enthusiastic about what they had received from God that some of those standing by accused them of being drunk on new wine. But Peter said, "These are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh." It was an outpouring of the Spirit upon them. They had a complete filling of this common salvation.

I know this is not the modern way, but, personally, I don't want modern salvation. Modern religion is merely church membership. It is all right to belong to the church, but people need first to know God, and have an experience that they know about. When we accept the Bible we will not be guessing and hoping about so many things. There will be some things we know. When you see a fellow who never knows, you are looking at a man who does not have much religion and no salvation. John the apostle was a good man and he had a lot to say about knowing. He wrote the following words, "We do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments," 1 John 2:3. "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren," 1 John 3:14. In verse nineteen of the same chapter, "And hereby we know that we are of the truth." And in the 24th verse he said, "And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." How did he say we would know? By the Spirit which He hath given us.

Churches

PART FOUR

By Jonathan D. Bright

Assistant General Overseer
Western District

WHY SOME CHURCHES BECOME LARGE

There is no law that is to be more deeply appreciated than the law of growth. Without it we think of stintedness, stagnation, limitation, imperfection, and death. With it there is development, progress, increase, health, thrift, and life.

In monetary terms we appreciate the pennies because they make a dollar even though it takes one hundred.

In geographical study we appreciate the grains of sand and drops of water for, as the poet said, "Little drops of water, little grains of sand, make a mighty ocean and a pleasant land."

The tiny acorn is appreciated in the study of horticulture because "from it the oak tree grows."

In respect to the most feeble and frail beginnings of projects for God, Zechariah interrogates, "Who hath despised the day of small things?"

Jesus exhorts, "Who hath despised the day of small things?"

Jesus exhorts, "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." This indeed should be encouraging to the churches with the smallest of memberships.

Then, as if to supplement this exhortation, comes this complement by the Holy Ghost, "There are a FEW names among you at Sardis who have not defiled their garments, and they shall walk with me in white for they are worthy."

When it comes to God using men in carrying on His work, He thought in terms of two in the first great beginning of the human family, eight in the second beginning. In respect to the beginning of faith, God used one Abraham. Christ purchased the Church, and the twelve, the seventy, and one hundred and twenty served as its promoters and charter members.

God and the minority are always the majority! Therefore, when a Church of God is set in order with a few members full of the love of God and faith, they can be depended on for success and growth.

The Church of God denomination, in fact, had its first initiation sixty years ago in the hearts of six men and women in a log cabin in Monroe County, Tennessee, although it was not so denominated until 1906. Now we have two thousand five hundred and fifty-five churches. In some of these churches there are from five hundred to eight hundred members, but most of them started "with a few names," yes, as a "little flock."

The pastor that takes the Pauline attitude—"I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me"—is not to be discouraged easily over having a small church. Certainly he will never take the defeatist attitude.

I remember a small membership that was housed in a small tin warehouse that was like an icebox in the winter and a sweatbox in the summer. Of course, the only possibility of the church growing rested on the condition that a church building be erected. One pastor had enough courage to broach the subject to the members and make a few plans, but about the time he had their interest built up to a high pitch his enthusiasm failed and I (his state overseer) received a telegram stating that he was giving up the church.

His successor, whom I had to conduct a few nights' services prior to appointing, sized the situation up squarely, asked what was needed, yet felt he should stay in the evangelistic work. However, after much persuasion on my part, and prayer and fasting on his, he felt free to accept the pastorate. But by this time the ambition to build had greatly subsided; in fact, the members didn't expect the pastor to do anything immediately. So when he submitted his plans for a 30 x 50 full basement church, the members became fainthearted and began saying, "You know there are only eighteen of us and we are poor people." Well, when that fear dispelled the local War Production Board would not grant a priority certificate. The pastor appealed to the National Board and sent pictures of the building in which they were worshipping. In a short time he had a No. A-1 priority rating to build a five thousand dollar church.

That was fine but when the project was far enough along for a basement, some of the main members said, "He had better stop here, we can never pay for it." But the pastor kept building away. His son quit his job and helped him. In fact, he and his son did most of the construction work. I found him completely worked down a few times but never discouraged. Once he needed $50 worth of material, couldn't go any farther without it. He didn't have the $50. He started, nevertheless, after the material and a man came walking toward the car toying $50 in his hand. Upon approaching he said, "I don't know what I'm doing with this money, it must be for you."

While some of the members were doing nothing but worrying and wondering how the debt would be paid, the pastor was praying. The Lord told him to go to a Jew and the Jew gave him a check for five hundred dollars.

Well the church building was completed that year, with old-fashioned revivals all along. A parsonage was built the next year, and through all of the building projects the spiritual tide ran high. The last account I had the membership was fifty-six and the church packed out practically every service. Those members had a progressive-minded, energetic, faithful pastor who sought to be all that he could to the church at Sparta, Tenn. Yes, Brother Ted Moore worked and prayed until the mere possibilities were turned into material and spiritual realities—he rated the title of "a good steward."

A revival atmosphere serves as the very best stimulant to a church. However, some fainthearted pastors and members of small churches take the attitude that they can't pay an evangelist.

Well, it certainly is proper to consider giving evangelists adequate support, but as a general rule it is never very difficult for an evangelist to get support from a real revival. Of

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The Holy Spirit

His Office Work

By A. V. BEAUBE, Asst. General Overseer, South Central District

This is the second of a series of three articles on the subject of the "Holy Spirit."

As shown in the first message, the Savior had promised to send the Holy Spirit and, according to that promise, when the day of Pentecost had fully come and while these happy, blood-washed saints of God tarried in Jerusalem in an upper room, down from heaven, like a rushing mighty wind, came the mighty, soul-inspiring, courage-giving, power-bestowing, speaking, teaching, guiding, comforting Holy Ghost. If one would like to know if He was all that Jesus promised He would be, he has only to read the account of that wonderful sermon delivered by the once frightened, discouraged, denying apostle Peter. Hear them cry out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" See the works of the Church and hear the people, who a few days ago were hiding out, "for fear of the Jews," testifying, so that it was said, "When this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were amazed, and in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?" Study the book of the Acts and you will never doubt but that the Holy Ghost was really all the disciples expected.

Note the expression: "And when the DAY OF PENTECOST WAS FULLY COME." He was to come, according to God's timetable, exactly fifty days after the resurrection, as seen by the type in the twenty-third chapter of Leviticus. A close study of Leviticus 23 will reveal seven great feasts which taught the Israelites a lesson in remembering some great event, also prefigured or typified some future event. Let us look at it.

Verses 4 and 5 is a passover feast and commemorates the leaving of Egypt and the sacrificial lamb. It also prefigures the death of the "Lamb of God" for the sins of the world. Verses 6-8 speak of a holy life and communion with Christ. What a happy life! (We will deal with this thought in our next lesson.) In verses 9-14 is the

feast of the first fruits. This is the resurrection feast. "Christ the first fruits." See 1 Cor. 15:23 and 1 Thess. 4:13-17. This feast was observed by bringing a sheaf of the first fruits of the land and offering them before the Lord, and typified the resurrection of our Lord from the dead. The next is the feast of pentecost which was held fifty days after the feast of first fruits, so according to the type, the Holy Spirit was to come fifty days after the resurrection. Notice verses 15 and 16, "And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, FROM THE DAY THAT YE BROUGHT THE SHEAF OF THE WAVE OFFERING, SEVEN SABBATHS SHALL BE COMPLETE: even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number FIFTY DAYS." Thus we have the statement that WHEN THE DAY OF PENTECOST WAS FULLY COME. Praise the Lord, it was not a happen so. It was according to God's plans, that He came on that special day.

According to Whit Sunday in the New Century Dictionary, Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival observed on the fiftieth day from the day of the offering of the sheaf, in the week following the passover, hence a Christian festival.

We see by the type and shadows and by the record in the New Testament, that He was to come. We also know He came. Now, let us examine some of the verses of the old Book and see if we can find out for what purpose He came.

1. He came as a comforter. John 14:16, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever."

"Comforter"—Greek, "Parakletos" —means "one called along side to help." Compare Rom. 8:26, 27, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; for we know what we should pray for as we ought: BUT THE SPIRIT ITSELF MAKETH INTERCESSION FOR US WITH GROANINGS THAT CAN NOT BE UTTERED. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, BECAUSE HE MAKETH INTERCESSION FOR THE SAINTS ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD."

2. He hears and speaks. John 16:13. It is a blessed thing for Christians to have the Holy Ghost, to hear from the Father and then gently speak to them when they are perplexed over life's problems. Then, too, there are so many things about God and heaven that He can teach us if we stay where we can commune with Him. 1 Cor. 2:9, 10, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have it entered into the heart of man, the things which the Lord hath prepared for them that love him. BUT GOD HATH REVEALED THEM UNTO US BY HIS SPIRIT: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, THE DEEP THINGS of God."

No, don't be afraid. He never leads any one contrary to God's Word and He will never teach one to be SELFISH or to be PUFFED UP through vainglory, for we are told that He will glorify the Son of God. John 16:14.

3. He convicts the sinners. John 16:8, "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." Notice the words of Acts 2:37, "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their hearts," and wanted to know what to do. They were advised quickly by the preacher to repent, with a promise that they, too, might have the Holy Ghost, for said he: "The promise is unto you, and your children .... even as many as the Lord our God shall call." There is quite a contrast

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Jamaican in the United States Keeps the Victory

I have just received a letter from Kathline Delay of the Outlook Church of God at Brighton Street, Elizabeth, Jamaica, saying that she wants to send her testimony to the Evangel so that the brothers and sisters in Jamaica can see that she is continuing in the faith.

She says, "I was saved on March 28, 1940, and I found that Jesus is real to me. I have proved it in all my way, so I mean to continue.

"Can you inform me how to get the Evangel to read?"

She also asks for information on how to find the nearest Church of God. Of course, we are giving it to her.

Northwest Mexico Convention

Following are reports from some of our brethren who visited the convention with us and, since they have done such a good job of reporting, I shall not try to add anything to what they have said except that God was with us and none of us will ever find words to describe these conventions in foreign fields. You would have had to be there yourself to really appreciate what God is doing for these precious people.

"On January 15 my overseer, Brother L. L. Hughes, and I left Lawton about 1:30 P. M., picked up Brother E. M. Smith and Brother Edgar Darter in Electra, Texas, and started for Obregon, Mexico. We arrived at Nogales, Arizona, about 1:00 A. M. Wednesday morning. Since it was 330 miles from Nogales to Obregon and the road is a dirt road which winds for ninety miles through cactus and sand, we decided to leave the car and go by train. We left Wednesday at 2:00 P. M.

"Truly God was with us. While we were securing our tickets in the Nogales depot we found Brother J. H. Ingram sitting in a corner. Were we glad! We waited for the train from Tucson and Brother M. P. Cross got off. That was one happy meeting. I just love Brother Cross and Brother Ingram. They are so broad-minded, so humble, and considerate. They did everything within their power to make the trip pleasant and nice and, I must say, they did a good job of it. After riding eighteen hours on the train, we landed in Obregon and secured rooms at the Hotel Colonial.

"When time for service arrived, we went to a large stucco building. It was packed almost to its capacity. There we met Brother David Ruesga, overseer of Mexico, Brother Fernando Gonzalez, assistant overseer, Brother Alejandro Portugal, and all the other good brethren and preachers, besides our beloved Vessie Hargrave, our mission representative.

"My, how God did bless! The thing that impressed me most was the sincerity and humbleness of those precious people. Such singing I have never heard. Of course, I did not understand the words, but I knew when they were singing such songs as, 'Oh Our Lord Is Coming Back to Earth Again.' Well, I will not say all that I did—you that know me—I do not have to say. I had my first experience of preaching through an interpreter. God did bless and, really, if God were to say, 'Go!' I, like old Isaiah, would say, 'Here I am, send me.' I only wish that all our American people could have witnessed what I did while there. Then, when offerings for foreign missions are taken, they would not only give what they had, but would wish for more to give. You dear Church of God saints, if any of you read this and have been negligent about giving to missions, for God's sake and the sake of those precious people, not only in Mexico but in all the other countries, pray through, ask God for the mission spirit which our Savior had when He was here and gave all He had.

"I thank God for our Mission Board. They are doing all they can for the foreign countries, but they can only do as we do. I do not mean to write a sermon on missions but feel like saying that if you knew what one dollar meant to those in Mexico who are winning souls, I am persuaded you would arise and say, 'We have not done anything in the past in comparison to what we are going to do.'

I intended to get the number who had received the Holy Ghost during the convention but I only got the number up to Saturday night, which was forty. We left Obregon Monday and stopped for a service at Enpalme with Billie Perez. We had a wonderful time there. Brother Ruesga and Brother Gonzalez went that far with us and Brother Hargrave went with us to Nogales where we left him to see about two or three churches there. Brother Cross came all the way with us. He said it was a happy trip for him and we were very glad to have him with us.

"I have merely hit the high spots in our trip. Perhaps some of our other brethren will write something I have not. Espero verle otra xez. Dios le bendiga. Pray for us. God bless you all."—L. C. Pennington.

Sonora, Mexico, Convention

I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to attend the Senora state convention in Ciudad Obregon, Mexico, January 19-21. I have long been interested in missions, but this was the first privilege I had of seeing for myself some of the great work which has been made possible through our mission dollar.

Our party met Brother M. P. Cross, Mission Secretary, and Brother J. H. Ingram, Field Representative, in Nogales Arizona, where we took a train for Obregon, Sonora, about three hundred and thirty miles in the interior. This journey by train was very interesting. We saw strange people with strange customs. Peddlars, children and adults swarmed around the train at the stations crying out their wares for sale. Mexico is a strange land, a land of wealth in resources, but a land of poverty for most of its population.

My heart is enlarged to see the fine work that is being carried on by our missionaries and native workers. Truly I realize that the Latin American countries with their Spanish-speaking people afford a great opportunity for our missionary enterprise.

I was much impressed by the worship of our Mexican brethren. They

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News from Bible Training School and College

Meet the New B. T. S. and College Faculty Members

Most of you know, from the Assembly news, that B. T. S. has a new Superintendent this year, but do you know all the new members of the staff?

"New Superintendent," did I say? Before his nine years of service as our General Overseer, Brother J. H. Walker was Superintendent of B. T. S. in Cleveland for five and one-half years, also five years as student and teacher, so this year he is just taking up his unfinished task, but with far greater responsibilities, as well as possibilities, due to the growth of the school under the able leadership of Brother Tharp. Both faculty and student body appreciate the privilege of working with Brother Walker for the greatest possible advancement of the school this year.

Working with him, in the new position of Business Manager, created by the last Assembly, is Brother Harley R. Wilkins, of Atlanta, Georgia. While he was in the army at Camp Lee, Virginia, he organized a prayer meeting. Previously he spent six months in Mexico. He comes to us from Emory University, where he was a bookkeeper and paymaster.

TRULLA VINSON

Miss Trulla Vinson comes from Scaly, North Carolina, to teach in the Commercial Department of the Church of God Bible Training School and College.

She was born in Tennessee and later moved west were she graduated from high school in Sheridan, Wyoming. She took a year of normal training there and taught for the next few years in the public schools of Wyoming and Arkansas. She attended several short summer schools in various North Carolina colleges while associated with literacy work there for four years.

In November, 1942, she graduated from Athens Business College, Athens, Georgia, and immediately accepted a position with Perry Business Schools of Brunswick, Georgia, teaching three terms in business schools for the next fifteen months in the states of Florida, Georgia, and Virginia. In the spring of 1944, she resigned in order to come to B. T. S. in September.

LOIS MAE UNDERWOOD

Miss Lois Mae Underwood, born in Cairo, Georgia, is the daughter of Rev. J. L. Underwood who has been a minister in the Church since he was eighteen years of age. He is also a graduate of Bible Training School.

Miss Underwood is a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Flat River Junior College, and Campbell College. She was an active member of the Phi Kappa Phi, Honorary Fraternity at the University of Tennessee.

Miss Underwood has majored in Home Economics and is now teaching in the Home Economics Department. She is well liked by all of her students and is doing a great work here.

MRS. NINA DRIGGERS

Mrs. Nina Driggers came from Largo, Florida, to the Church of God Bible Training School, in September, 1944, to teach in the English Department.

Mrs. Driggers finished high school in South Georgia College and taught one year in a rural school. She married a Methodist minister and worked with him until his death in June, 1935.

She began college work at Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky, in September, 1935, and received her degree in 1938.

Since that time she has been teaching in the public schools in Georgia and Florida.

PRISCILLA PASSET

Miss Priscilla Passet was born in New York City, New York; received her grammar and high school education in Chicago, Illinois; and was converted in her last year of high school, so her mother, desirous of having her receive Christian teaching, sent her "'way down souf'" to Bob Jones College, Cleveland, Tennessee.

Here she received her training for life, as well as an A. B. degree, with a major in Bible and a minor in French. During the past two summers she has been working for her Master's degree in French at the University of Tennessee.

She taught Bible, French, and English in the Bob Jones College Academy last year (1943-44). This year she is teaching high school Bible, French and General Science, and college French.

She is very happy in her work here, and is learning more unusual things (from her pupils) every day.

ELIZABETH HUNT

Miss Hunt's home town is Atlanta, Georgia. It is there that she has spent most of her life and has secured her education. Although her parents have been dead for some years, she and two of her sisters have carried on the home quite well. In fact, the three girls were never separated until Elizabeth came here to teach school. She, in my estimation, can be called a self-made person. She worked hard by day and went to the University of Georgia evening college to secure her education. After several years of faithful study, she obtained her Bachelor of Science degree from the evening college. For the past several years she has been working for the United States Government in their office force. Now she is here at B.T.S. as a teacher in the high school and college departments. Teaching school has always been her ambition. She is realizing that ambition here this year, and we are made to realize the splendid teacher that she is.

MRS. DOLLIE ALFORD

Mrs. Dollie Alford is thankful to be in B. T. S. This is her second year here. She was converted at the age of eight years and at that time became a member of the Church of God. She received her education in the elementary and high schools of Lakeland, Florida. She feels that God has divinely guided her life. Since a small child she has felt the hand of God upon her life and had a desire to do something for the Lord, striving always to live in the center of His will.

Untiringly, she plans our daily menus and directs the serving in the cafeteria. We all appreciate her faithful services so cheerfully rendered.

PETER N. JOHNSON

Mr. Johnson went to China in 1922. Later he returned to the United States for a short time and again sailed for China, 1928, where he has spent sixteen years of profitable missionary service. His wife also was a great help to him in Bible work there and his son was born in China. He returned to America in 1938, and then made a trip to Europe, visiting England, Norway, and Sweden; Paris, France, and Berlin, Germany. His travels also include the countries of Japan, Mexico, Cuba, and other places of great interest.

This year he comes to us from his home in California and is teaching the Manderian language, which is spoken by 80 per cent of the Chinese. God enabled Brother Johnson to carry

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REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

The healing of my body; my son in Service overseas; my home and my husband.—Mrs. Earnest Arrowood, 306 McConnell St., Clover, S. C.

The healing of my body, I have heart dropsy; my husband.—Mrs. Myrtle Jordan, Rt. 2, Opp, Ala.

My son who was overseas fifteen months, but is in a hospital in Davisville, R. I., in a serious condition. He would appreciate anyone visiting him. His address is Adam C. Lyons, S. F. 2|c, Station Force S-3, Camp Endicott, Davisville, R. I. My healing, I am very nervous.—Mrs. Harriett Crummie, Rt. 2, Orangeburg, S. C.

My healing; my boy overseas.—Omer B. Ledford, Rt. 4, Carrollton, Ga.

My boy in Service to be saved.—Mary M. Sims, Rt. 1, Marianna, Fla.

My husband to be healed of flu; me to be healed of bad kidney trouble and flu; my boys in Service, one in Germany and one in the Philippines.—Mrs. A. J. White, Rt. 1, Leoma, Tenn.

My husband overseas; my four-year-old son.—Mrs. G. Poyette, 1103 E. Apache, Phoenix, Ariz.

The healing of W. T. Powell, Frostproof, Fla., who is bedridden; he is very old. Pray for the salvation of his soul, he seems so hungry for the Lord. —A friend.

My nephew in the Army to be healed; he was in an accident which left him crippled. His jaw is out of shape and he cannot hear or open his mouth but just a little. Please visit him if you are close to Camp Knox, Ky. Pvt. Lloyd L. Pearson, 39048755, Regional Hospital, Ward H-125, Fort Knox, Ky.—Mrs. Etta Knight, 2602 Cuming St., Omaha, Nebr.

God to undertake for me; the Lord to heal some precious girls.—Flora Nell Davis, Magee, Miss.

God to undertake for me.—Mrs. W. R. Daniel, Griffin St., N. W., Atlanta, Ga.

Rev. H. D. Nicolls to be healed of appendicitis and heart trouble.—Mrs. H. D. Nicolls, 2810 Kinsey, Des Moines 17, Iowa.

The saving and healing of Emma Edwards; my husband in the Navy.—Mrs. J. T. Dearing, Sykesville, Md.

The healing and salvation of my son, Pvt. Harold C. Burdette, 1507 Washington St., Columbia, S. C.; my husband to be healed of ulcers of the stomach; my children. — Mrs. Clyde Burdette, 609 Poplar Ave., Williamstown, W. Va.

Me to be healed, I have been in the hospital thirteen days and am still bedfast. Encouragement appreciated. —Mrs. Hugh Dryman, Scaly, N. C.

Unspoken request; my loved ones.—Beulah Chaney, 718 N. Lucia Ave., Redondo Beach, Calif.

Me to be healed, I have been sick five weeks with a rundown system and nervousness.—Julia Clark, 1748 N. W. 2nd Ct., Miami 36, Fla.

God to heal our baby; my two brothers in Service; unspoken request.—Mrs. Ova Combs, Box 61, North Matewan, W. Va.

The Lord to undertake for my daughter.—Mrs. Vera Lawson, Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

The saving of Manson R. Winstead, Co. 50, U.S.N.T.C., Great Lakes, Ill.; the healing and saving of Pvt. Lee R. Stewart, 34944990, Med. Det., Oliver Gen. Hosp., Augusta, Ga. Please visit them if you are close enough.—Mrs. Bessie Marie, Cornelia, Ga.

Thankful for Prayers and Encouragement

Dear Ones in Christ Jesus: We thank all of you for your prayers and letters which we received when our children were sick. May God bless you. It would be almost impossible to answer them all personally, but we are so grateful to all. Keep praying for us.—Sincerely, Brother and Sister Price, Atlanta, Georgia.

Successful Revival

SESSER, Ill.—We have just closed a successful revival at this place. Seven were saved, seven sanctified, three filled with the Holy Ghost, six added to the church, and ten baptized in water. We give God all the praise for it.—Kenneth Moore, pastor.

OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 3)

BOECKEL

Little Duane, six-year-old son of Brother and Sister Art Boeckel, was kicked by a horse on October 7, 1944, and died instantly. Pray for his bereaved parents.—Mrs. E. E. Coleman, Beulah, N. Dak.

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HARRISON

Little Glenda Carol, darling baby of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Harrison, went home to be with Jesus on December 25, 1944; age two years, ten months and eight days.—Her grandmother, Mrs. W. P. Ganey.

SPECIAL MIRROR NOTICE

We can furnish mirrors with celluloid back with a variety of five religious paintings on back cover. We can also furnish these with five patriotic features: "Remember Pearl Harbor," "God Bless America," etc., at a price of $53.00 per thousand; 500, $27.50; 250, $14.00; 100, $6.25; 50, $3.40; 25, $1.85; 10, 75c. No orders accepted for less than 10. Possible discounts on orders above 2,500 mirrors. These prices are postpaid.

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Church of God Publishing House

Montgomery Avenue

CLEVELAND, TENN.

Reports from the Field

God Blessing in Cincinnati, Ohio

I praise God for the way He is blessing us here in Cincinnati. We have a good Sunday School with an average of over two hundred for the last quarter. The attendance of our Y. P. E. is good also. We surely appreciate our good Sunday School superintendent, Brother W. L. Burress. He really puts a zeal in our hearts to see the Sunday School go forward. We have a good Y.P.E. president, Brother Leonard Tomlin. God came down in our service last Saturday night in a marvelous way. We expect a good time in the Lord in our Y. P. E. this quarter.

Last but not least, let me say a word about our good pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister D. G. Phillips. They came here in September to start their battle against the devil. I think I speak for the whole church when I say we surely appreciate their labors since they have been here. They always have a big welcome for any newcomer, as well as the regular members of our congregation. Truly Brother and Sister Phillips are a father and mother to their congregation and church members. We feel that Findlay's loss was Cincinnati's gain.

Pray that our church may grow and be a blessing to the City. Also, please pray that God will help us find a larger building in which to worship. We need a larger place badly and were planning to build this last spring but the war restrictions on building stopped us. Our building will not hold our crowds on Sunday night and we need more Sunday School room. Pray for us.—Reporter, Hazel Childers, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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Going Forward

HOLDEN, W. Va.—We are having a wonderful time and progressing rapidly in our church at Holden, W. Va., under the able leadership of Brother Ancel Newton, our pastor, for this church year. Eight new members have been added to our church, several saved, a goodly number filled with the Holy Ghost, and the saints are on fire for God.

Pray for our church to keep going forward until Jesus comes to claim His own.—Raymond R. Baker, clerk.

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Happy To Report Victory

ABILENE, Tex.—We are happy to say the Lord is working wonderfully in Abilene, Tex. This is a young church. We are happy to announce that on Wednesday, January 10, two were baptized in water; Wednesday night three were saved, two sanctified, and two added to the church. Praise God! A Baptist mother was saved and healed of a very bad case of heart trouble. We anointed her with oil in the presence of onlookers who were made to wonder. Saturday night in our Y. P. E. service her husband of about sixty-five years was gloriously saved. He said he had been a member of a church for fifty-five years and had just found out how to get saved.

Pray for us here in Abilene, and all of our neighboring churches come over and help us.—J. T. Hickman, pastor, 417 Pecan St.

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The Lord Is Answering Our Prayers in Oklahoma

We, the Church of God, are enjoying the fruits of a series of meetings conducted by Rev. and Mrs. F. H. Dance. She will perhaps be better known by the name Miss Mae Wheeler, of Red Boiling Springs, Tenn. She did the greater part of the preaching, in which much interest was shown. One young woman was saved and sanctified. One was prayed for and the Lord healed her. The sister, saved and sanctified has accepted the presidency of the Y. P. E. that has been organized since the good meeting.

Many, no doubt, will be glad to know that the church is now more centrally located at 122 E. Broadway, one block east of the post office, and on the same street. From this location we expect to move into a new church building.

Since arriving here September 10, we are glad to report that the old indebtedness against the church has been raised through the sales of pictures, calendars, Christmas greetings, mottoes, mirrors, pencils, and Lighted Pathways. The sales have been made by the leading ladies of the church. Sister Dance is chairman of the sales campaign.

A goodly number enjoyed the well-arranged Thanksgiving and Christmas programs put on by Sister Dance and her many good friends.—F. H. Dance, pastor, 308 W. Main, Enid, Okla.

Lake City, South Carolina, District Convention

The district convention convened at the Church of God in Lake City, January 27, 28, Rev. Zeno C. Tharp, state overseer, Rev. Grady Waters, state superintendent of Y. P. E. and Sunday School, and Rev. A. J. Moore, district overseer, were in charge.

The program was arranged to give attention to the Evangel and Lighted Pathway circulations, the work of the Sunday Schools, Y.P.E.'s, B.T.S., and orphanage. Of course, missions had a place on the program, with a good message by Brother Tharp.

The well-planned program did not crowd out the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. There was preaching, praying, singing, shouting, dancing, running, speaking in other tongues, and liberality in giving. The orphanage offering was $112.70; mission offering $226.03.—Annie E. Jones, reporter, Box 2, Tucapau, S. C.

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Lord Blessing in Lamesa, Texas

Since coming here October 5 the Lord has been so good to us I hardly know where to begin. First, I wish to praise the Lord for saving souls; most every Sunday night someone prays through. Saturday night before Thanksgiving we put on the play, "A Search in Vain," and nine accepted the Lord. I just wish you could have been with us. The following night Brother Bill Cook began a revival. Four were saved, three sanctified, and two filled with the Holy Ghost. I believe we have the most spiritual Y.P.E. that I have seen in several months. Our L. W. W. B. is surely working; they are furnishing the parsonage and installing bathroom facilities. Pray for the work here, especially for a dear Baptist sister who has received the Holy Ghost.—Mrs. E. L. Mitchell.

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Home-Coming at Snowds Branch, North Carolina

We had a home-coming at Snowds Branch church the fifth Sunday in December. A good time was had by all. We had plenty of good music. The quartet from Kinston, N. C., was really fine and some of the best testimonies I have heard were given. Over $40 was taken to help on the parsonage. There was plenty of good preaching and Brother O'Ham surely tried to make all feel welcome. He and his wife are real workers for the the Lord and they have plenty of good helpers.—One who enjoyed being there, Mrs. Albert Lewis, R.F.D. 3, Williamston, N. C.

REVIVALS

SHEEPTOWN, Va.—Brother C. B. Clark, of Abingdon, Virginia, began a revival here October 1. It continued three weeks, closing October 22. During this time there were some real battles fought against the forces of the evil one, but thanks be unto God who giveth the victory, a number testified of being saved and three or four sanctified, two were baptized in water, and two came into the church.

Cottage prayer meetings are being conducted in the homes in the community and souls are getting saved and blessed. Eternity alone will reveal the good accomplished in this meeting. Brother Clark preached the Word fearlessly without favor to anyone, and left the results with God. There were times that the devil seemed to have the victory, but by holding on to God we were able to obtain the promise of God. Pray for us at this place.—Edith Vance, reporter.

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BARTOW, Fla.—We have recently closed a successful revival at the Church of God at Bartow, conducted by Brother S. Browder, pastor of the church at Haines City, Florida. The Lord was so real to us in every service. My! how our souls were fed by the good preaching of Brother Browder. He surely brought the Word in the old-time gospel way. Souls were blessed, backsliders reclaimed and sinners began to see their need of God. The meeting ran three weeks, the last being the week of the hurricane in Florida. We had to miss several nights' service as the light wires were down, but the revival kept going on in the hearts of those that loved the Lord. A number were saved, three or four received the precious Holy Ghost and six were added to the church. We humbly thank the Lord for the way He is blessing and the way the church is moving on. We have a good pastor and wife, Brother and Sister J. J. Dees. They are truly workers for the cause of Christ. Pray for us at Bartow. We do want to ever be at our post of duty in the service of our Lord.—Sincerely, Sister Thelma Glover, 665 Orange Ave.

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COOLEEMEE, N. C.—We praise the Lord for the work that has been done at the Church of God in Cooleemee. A two weeks' revival has just closed with Rev. E. E. Hurst doing the preaching. Souls were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, and three added to the church. The Lord is blessing the church and the new pastor, Brother W. L. Smith, of Kannapolis, North Carolina. We are glad for the improvement that has been done on the church property. We have put down a new cement walk and have ordered new pews for the church. We had a wonderful service Sunday night with three souls saved. God is blessing wonderfully. Praise His name. We desire the prayers of all Christian people that the church will be a blessing and will stay on fire for the Lord. We are proud that the church is out of debt, for which we thank the Lord.—Luther Brown, clerk.

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I praise the Lord for old-time salvation that takes away all fear and doubt and cleanses us within and without. Faith in God will stand every test and will lead you safely to a land of rest. Let us be faithful, work, and pray, and walk with God from day to day. If we walk after the spirit, we will not fullfil the lust of the flesh.

I received a call to go to West Virginia to hold a revival. I did not know what to do. So I prayed for God to direct me. I just stepped out by faith and said, "Lord, I will go if you will open the way." I went to see a friend and told her about the call I had received. The Lord moved upon her heart and she gave me money with which to buy a bus ticket. I did not know how I would get back, but I went by faith, believing that God would supply my needs. I arrived at the place where I was to hold the meeting on Saturday. I was invited to preach at a church of another faith Sunday afternoon, which I did. The Lord did bless. I rode back to the place where I was to start my meeting that night, and found the house filled with people. The Lord was there. I continued the services at Merrimac, West Virginia, eleven days. As a result two souls were saved, one sanctified, and one baptized in water. Some people from Stringtown, Kentucky, attended the revival and invited me to go to their town and hold a revival. I went over and preached two weeks with the success of getting two saved, one sanctified, and one baptized with the Holy Ghost. I give the Lord all the praise. He is so very wonderful to me. Bless His sweet name forever. He wonderfully supplied my need. It is just like Him to bless His children and supply their need when they get self out of the way, obey the call wherein they are called, and let Him have full control. All who read this please pray for me, that I will be a success for the Lord.—Mrs. Katie Tucker.

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ST. PAULS, N. C.—I want to praise the Lord for the revival that closed a few days ago at St. Pauls, North Carolina. Brother J. A. Byrd, of Lake View, South Carolina, was our evangelist. Eight were saved, seven sanctified, four filled with the Holy Ghost, and nine added to the church. The church was greatly revived and is in better spiritual condition than when I first came here. If you are in need of a revival and want a preacher who stands for the Church of God and preaches it, you will do well to secure Brother J. A. Byrd.

We have on a building program also. We have secured the lot and enough cinder blocks for the building, and one man has given twenty bags of cement. The last Sunday in October was our home-coming day, at which time we raised one hundred fifty dollars.

When you pray please remember us at St. Pauls. We are small in membership but God is with us. We are traveling here by faith. Pray that the Lord will provide the means for our church building. If the Lord tells you to help us some, please obey the Lord. Pray also that the revival spirit will continue among us and that souls will continue to come to God.—Buford L. Vollrath, pastor.

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TAZEWELL, Va.—We have just closed a wonderful three weeks' revival at the Church of God here in Thompson Valley. Brother P. B. Duncan was the evangelist. He preached the old-time gospel under the anointing of the Holy Ghost each night. The saints were blessed and drawn closer to the Lord.

According to the testimonies given, three were saved, two sanctified, and four filled with the Holy Ghost. Pray for us and our work here.—C. O. Lawson, pastor; Mrs. Fred Meredith, clerk.

God cannot trust any person who would deceive his fellow men.

MISSION PAGE

(Continued from page 9)

demonstrated great reverence when the Word of God was read. They stood with rapt attention while the Word was read and when heaven was referred to in their songs they extended their hands toward heaven. As I saw those dark hands extended upward, those faces looking heavenward, I visioned the millions of Latin American and other Spanish-speaking countries which need the gospel. Latin America offers us the greatest opportunity for missionary work ever extended to the Church of God.

Their devotion is wonderful. When seats were not available, they stood holding their babies and, although the services were long and drawn out, they did not seem to grow tired. The small children sat on the floor near the altar rail and listened attentively. To see those smiling children is to love them. How the heart of Christ must go out for these children as they stand eagerly listening to the preaching with their sincerity stamped on their faces. I was particularly attracted by the Indians of that fierce Yaqui tribe who had been so gloriously converted. To see their dark faces aglow with the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ is worth all our missionary sacrifice. The earnestness of their countenances as they prayed made me realize the sincerity of their hearts. Although I did not understand a word, I shall never forget the singing of those precious people. The harmony and quality of their voices was heavenly.

I wish to commend the fine work that is being done by Brother M. P. Cross, Brother J. H. Ingram and Brother V. D. Hargrave in this great field. We were blessed to associate with them those few days of the convention and to see their great devotion and zeal for their work. It was inspiring. May the Lord continue to bless them in this great work.—L. L. Hughes, overseer of Okahoma.

MAINTAINING APOSTOLIC STANDARDS

(Continued from page 5)

his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. And as ye go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give," Matt. 10: 1, 7, 8. "And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen," Mark 16:20.

A COMMAND

It was particularly a part of both the standard of our Lord, as well as the apostolic age, that His ministers be endowed with power from on high. Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8.

This injunction was complied with and fulfilled in Acts 1:14; 2:4, and became the guiding force and power of the ministry of the apostles. Consequently, we have an outstanding healing of the lame man at the gate as the firstfruit of the apostolic ministry. Not only there, but this ministry of signs and wonders continued, "and by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people," Acts 5:12. Another replica of this ministry was manifested at the city of Samaria where Philip preached.

A PRESCRIPTION OF FAITH

In James 5:14 we have a prescription of faith for the afflicted and a definite promise to the minister who waits on the Lord for healing for his flock. The power of miracles of healing is broadly reflected in the ministry of Philip at Samaria, as a means to awaken interest and conviction for salvation among the lost. Healings manifest the visible power and presence of the Lord. If those who preach the gospel, trust God for healing of their own bodies, their testimonies and ministry become a light to the afflicted, a challenge to the devil and an encouragement to others to trust and believe God for healing. Ministers who do not trust God for their own healings certainly need not expect God to bless their ministry in any very great manner by healing the sick. If a man has faith, he can trust God for his own healing. If he doesn't trust God, it is because he has no faith for healing. What good can he do for the afflicted in such cases? He has nothing to offer, in that he stands on nothing for himself to claim and appropriate healing to his own needs. His ministry concerning healing is a mock and a sham unless he has faith and trusts God for his own physical needs.

ENCOURAGEMENT NEEDED

I do not mean to be critical, I have no reserve of faith myself, and have suffered much affliction; but I am trusting God and having results in my own physical needs. Our people need encouragement in healing, and this must come through the ministry. We can trust God if we will fast and pray. If some of us, who have so much stomach trouble and other kindred ailments, would fast a little healings would most certainly come. Try it. Both the world and, as for the most part, the whole church hopefully await for the manifestation of the invisible power and blessings of Christ; that when their eyes are opened by the power of the miraculous Saviour they might accept Him and be saved. We would not have churches filled with unbelief and coldness if we had ministers full of faith and the Holy Ghost who trust God and wait on Him to manifest His power in a miraculous way. Coldness and unbelief in the churches over the country are a natural result of unbelief first in the pulpit. A consecration of our bodies unto God to have and to hold as His own, to die, to sink, or to swim, will bring new spiritual life and power into our lives and the churches we serve. The time to trust God is when you are sick. The time to pray for healing is when we are sick. See James, fifth chapter. A revival of salvation will proceed from a revival of healing. The one reveals Christ. The other is the result of a decision and acceptance of Christ.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Continued from page 8)

in this scene and the one a few days before this when the humble followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene were hiding in a room with the doors shut, for fear. What makes the difference? The answer is simple. The Holy Ghost had come and anointed them for service. He was guiding them and there was nothing to fear. They now knew that Christ had made the trip home safely and that He sent the Comforter as He had promised.

4. He is the sanctifier. Rom. 15:16 "That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, BEING SANCTIFIED BY THE HOLY GHOST."

In the twenty-fourth chapter of the first book of the Bible is a beautiful story, a type of God the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost, and the Church or the bride of Christ: Abraham—God the Father; Isaac—Christ; the unnamed servant—the Holy Spirit; and the girl Rebekah—the Church or bride of Christ.

Much has been said about Isaac and the girl, but I wish to call attention to the servant. He plays a very im-

portant part. He leaves home and goes to a far country to seek out a bride for the son, Isaac. He is careful as to whom he will select. He does not try to force her to go. He gives her plenty of time in which to decide. He furnishes conveyance. When he reaches home he presents the bride to his master Isaac.

What a beautiful picture of the Holy Spirit coming to the world and receiving or preparing a bride for the Son of God. His message now to the church is, "Be ye also ready, for at such an hour as you think nct the Son of man cometh." Soon the Lord is to come and we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with the saints who have died in the Lord and meet Him in the air. The Holy Spirit now hinders Satan and the antichrist and will hinder them until He be taken out of the way. When His work is done He will present the Church to Christ a glorious Church without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.

May we as Christians be careful to let Him guide us through this unfriendly world. It is a rough and rocky road but He knows the way. May we never grieve Him again. May He never have to suffer blasphemy from another sinner. May we consent to His purging us. May we be easy to guide to perfection. May He fill us with His fruits, Gal. 5:22-24, so that the world will look like a dime with a hole in it. May He so anoint us that worldly men and women will tremble at the message which we deliver from God's Word, and may He keep an upward gaze in our soul until we hear that SHOUT FROM OUR RISEN LORD, "COME UP HIGHER." THEN WE WILL BE GLAD THAT WE LET HIM HAVE FULL RIGHT OF WAY IN OUR LIVES.

CHURCHES

(Continued from page 7)

course, if the pastor, members, and evangelists all get their minds on finance too much they are more than likely to have a meeting instead of a revival, and many times a meeting doesn't pay the evangelist very much. Neither does it benefit the church very much.

If the desired evangelist puts money first, you put souls first and that evangelist last and use what you have with faith in God and you'll have a revival and an increase in membership.

When the "we spirit" takes hold of a membership, no matter how small it is, that church, despite the gates of hell, will grow in strength, sweetness, richness, and number like a beestand supported by a hive of Italian bees. In this kind of a church brotherly love, fellowship, and unity prevail. The members work together with the sentiment of "serving the Lord with joy and gladness," and with the disposition that they are "true yoke fellows."

Certainly there will be the Tobiahs and Sanballats to taunt, poke fun and criticize, but the good work, though by a limited group and scant finance, will go on! The pastor and members will not stop, neither will they "come down"; "they have a mind to work."

At times one or two members in a small membership can create a discouraging atmosphere and make it very hard for the rest to carry on, but if they will be faithful, victory will soon be theirs.

A pastor, who is now one of our best state overseers, John E. Douglas, was offered one hundred dollars by the leading member of a little church *to go back East*. The member said he was through, wasn't helping any longer. No use, church is dead! The pastor said, "I can't take the money. I'll stay here if I starve to death! I must get this church going." The discouraged brother was soon rejoicing with the pastor and other members over the largest and strongest church in the State.

Yes, to our little struggling churches that are being terribly hard hit by the war situation, by losing men to the Army and defense plants—take courage! "The harder the battle the sweeter the victory." "Winners never quit!" God has given you charter members of those little churches the distinguished honor of bringing into existence, maintaining, and promoting a workshop for Him and His Church. Make your church a city set on a hill to light the community for miles around. Yes, work to make your church one of the largest churches in the Church of God.

NEWS FROM BIBLE SCHOOL

(Continued from page 10)

on his work in northern China without the use of an interpreter. When the Japanese occupied parts of China, Brother Johnson, although very reluctant to speak of these things, has gone through many dangerous places to carry the truth to the heathen there. He even drove his car through the Jap lines during fighting, to fill his appointments in missions in the Japanese-occupied territory. His experiences in towns occupied by Chinese guerilla bands are very interesting, too. During the depression in 1930-33 the work there was greatly hindered, but God has crowned his efforts with fruitfulness in that needy land. He is abiding the day when he can return to China's millions who are hungry for our and their Savior. We are very fortunate to have him in B. T. S. and College, where he is helping prepare many of us for greater service to our Master.

(To be Continued)

No one is so beautifully dressed and tries to make as little display of it as he who is clothed with humility.

Some people are like the goat, in that they use their heads for butting more than they do for thinking.

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